

### 3.0 LIVESTOCK

The livestock sector is an important aspect of Malaysian agriculture. Production of livestock worth about M\$2 billion annually, contributes about 3% of GDP, 15% of the overall agricultural production and 33-35% of the value of food produced in the country. The main types of animals reared in Malaysia are cattle, buffalo, goat, sheep, poultry and swine.

The livestock industry is growing steadily as reflected by the estimated 12.7% growth in the ex-farm value of livestock output in 1989 compared with the value in 1988. In terms of production, poultry meat and pork are expected to exceed their respective domestic demand in 1989. According to the 1988/89 Agricultural Directory and Index poultry meat output is expected to register a 10% increase in 1989 as total production is expected to reach 308,000 tonnes compared with 280,000 tonnes in 1988. Similarly, pork production is expected to grow by 5.2% to reach 176,000 tonnes in 1989.

Continuous efforts have been made over recent years to increase production of beef, however local production of beef is expected to meet only about 37.5% of the domestic demand for beef in 1989. The remaining requirements are expected to be met by imported beef the bulk of which will come from India. Per capita consumption of beef is expected to increase from the present level of 3.6kg (compared with 36kg in USA) to at least 4.4kg per capita by the year 2000 (Table 2). The current demand of about 33,000 tonnes will increase to at least 50,000 tonnes by the year 2000.

TABLE 2: PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF BEEF AND VEAL (KG)

	1960	1970	1983	1985	2000
US	31.5	39.2	35.7	36.3	n.a.
Malaysia	2.0	2.5	3.2	3.6	4.4.

Source: Malaysia, Agricultural Directory Index, 1988/89

In 1989, local mutton production is estimated to record a double digit rise of 11.7% to 600 tonnes while domestic consumption is anticipated to increase by 2.9% to 9,100 tonnes. Despite higher output growth, local mutton output in 1989 is expected to be able to meet only 8.5% of total domestic requirements. In order to alleviate the acute shortfall in the supply of mutton, a total of 7,500 tones of mutton is expected to be imported from Australia, New Zealand and the United States in 1989. Efforts to promote the domestic production of lamb and mutton through grazing of goat and sheep in rubber estates and the development of new cross breed are continuously being pursued with the objective of reducing the level of imports. A Malaysian Agricultural Research and